

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 IGA-01 EB-07 IO-10 AGR-05

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 ABF-01 OMB-01 TRSE-00

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R 242124Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9662

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 1 OF 2 PORT AU PRINCE 951

FOR HERMAN KLEINE, AID/AA/LA FROM AMBASSADOR AND COUNTRY TEAM

E. O. 11652: ADS DECLAS IF USED AS TESTIMONY

TAGS: AID, HA

SUBJECT: PREPARATION FOR FY 76 CONGRESSIONAL HEARINGS

REF: (A) STATE 079249, 8 APR 75; (B) PORT-AU-PRINCE 1361, 19 JUL 74

1. USE OF VOLUNTARY AGENCIES. IN RESPONSE TO SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE'S RECOMMENDATION THAT U.S. FOREIGN ASSISTANCE TO HAITI BE CHanneLED WHEREVER POSSIBLE THROUGH PRIVATE AND VOLUNTARY AGENCIES, YOU MIGHT BEGIN BY POINTING OUT THAT AID HAS CONSISTENTLY EMPHASIZED USE OF VOLAGS IN PROGRAM FOR HAITI. UNDER CONTRACT WITH AID, CARE HAS PROVIDED TECHNICAL AND MANAGERIAL ASSISTANCE FOR RURAL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT (HACHO) PROJECT IN NORTHWEST HAITI AND THIS ROLE OF CARE WILL BE CONTINUED. PRINCIPAL U.S. VOLAGS (CARE, CRS AND CWS) ADMINISTER \$2 MILLION TITLE II FOOD-FOR-PEACE PROGRAM WHICH INCLUDES SIGNIFICANT COMPONENT OF FOOD-FOR-WORK ACTIVITIES. WITH ENCOURAGEMENT OF AID, CARE HAS SUBMITTED OPG POTABLE WATER PROJECT AND OPG NUTRITION TRAINING PROJECT. USAID/HAITI HAS RECOMMENDED APPROVAL THESE TWO PROJECTS (PORT-AU-PRINCE 825). VOLAGS AND U.S. CHURCH GROUPS ALSO PLAY IMPORTANT ROLE IN HELPING TO IDENTIFY SELF-HELP PROJECTS TO BE

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CONSIDERED FOR FINANCING FROM SPECIAL DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITY FUND.

AS WE PROCEED WITH PLANNING FOR FUTURE AID-FINANCED ACTIVITIES IN HAITI, WE WILL CONTINUE TO EXPLORE POSSIBILITIES FOR USE OF VOLAGS TO FULL EXTENT OF THEIR CAPABILITIES. VOLAGS ARE BEING ENCOURAGED TO SUBMIT ADDITIONAL OPG PROPOSALS IN AID'S AREAS OF CONCENTRATION.

2. ON THE OTHER HAND, CT BELIEVES COMMITTEE SHOULD BE ADVISED FRANKLY THAT PROMOTION OF LASTING DEVELOPMENTAL ACTIVITY AND HAITIAN SELF-HELP IS A FUNDAMENTAL OBJECTIVE OF U.S. BILATERAL PARTICIPATION IN GROWING FOREIGN ASSISTANCE ACTIVITY IN HAITI. SENATOR BROOKE'S REPORT RECOGNIZES THIS OBJECTIVE BY DRAWING DISTINCTION BETWEEN PROJECTS WHICH ARE PRIMARILY RELIEF-ORIENTED AND THOSE WHICH HAVE TRUE DEVELOPMENT CHARACTERISTICS AND BY RECOMMENDING (P. 25) THAT WE ENCOURAGE MORE ACTIVE PARTICIPATION BY GOH IN STRUCTURING AND IMPLEMENTING AID-FINANCED PROJECTS. IF WE ARE TO HELP ESTABLISH A FRAMEWORK FOR LASTING RESULTS, OUR PROJECTS MUST NECESSARILY BE DESIGNED TO HELP CREATE BASIC DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTIONS AND PROFESSIONAL CADRES AND TO INDUCE A MORE ACTIVE AND CONSTRUCTIVE GOH INVOLVEMENT IN THE DEVELOPMENT PROCESS. ACCORDINGLY, A MAJOR PORTION OF AID FUNDS ARE COMMITTED TO PROJECTS INVOLVING GOVERNMENTAL INSTITUTIONS, E.D., IMPROVEMENT OF SEPRRN'S ROAD MAINTENANCE CAPABILITIES FOR BOTH SHORT AND LONGER TERM, CREATION OF TRAINED CADRES FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT WHICH WILL GIVE A MORE CONSTRUCTIVE FORM TO GOH'S PRESENCE IN ISOLATED PROVINCES, IMPROVEMENT OF MINISTRY OF HEALTH'S CAPABILITY TO PLAN AND IMPLEMENT PROGRAMS FOR RURAL HEALTH DELIVERY SYSTEMS, ETC. THUS FAR, GOH AGENCIES HAVE COOPERATED VERY WELL FOR THESE PURPOSES AND GOH HAS MET COMMITMENTS FOR ITS OWN CONTRIBUTIONS. IN SUM, WE REGARD THIS TYPE OF GOH INVOLVEMENT AS DESIRABLE AND ESSENTIAL -- NOT SOMETHING TO BE MINIMIZED, AS COMMITTEE'S REPORT SEEMS TO IMPLY.

3. GOH BUDGETARY PROCESS AND THE REGIE DU TABAC. SEE SEPTTEL.

4. FOLLOWING UPDATED COMMENTS ARE KEYED TO PERTINENT NUMBERED RECOMMENDATIONS IN SENATOR BROOKE'S REPORT OF APRIL 1974 (PP.6-8).

5. RELIEF ISSUE (PARA. 3). OUR COMMENTS OF LAST YEAR (REF B, PARA 1) REMAIN VALID. WE SEE NO NEED TO ACCEPT PROPOSITION THAT SOME AID PROJECTS IN HAITI ARE ESSENTIALLY RELIEF-ORIENTED. FOR LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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EXAMPLE, THOUGH HACHO AREA WAS SELECTED BECAUSE OF EXTREME POVERTY OF AREA, AID-GOH PROGRAM IS DESIGNED TO INDUCE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN AREA. HACHO PROGRAM ENCOURAGES FORMATION OF COMMUNITY COUNCILS, PROVIDES ESSENTIAL HEALTH FACILITIES, AND FURNISHES FOOD-FOR-WORK COMMODITIES TO SELF-HELP ACTIVITIES, E.G. CONSTRUCTION OF ROADS AND EROSION CONTROL.

6. PROJECTION OF U.S. ASSISTANCE (PARA. 4). WE FORESEE FUTURE

LEVEL OF AID OBLIGATIONS CONTINUING ALONG LINES PROJECTED IN
FY 76 CP AND IN CASP SUBMISSION FOR FY 76-77. THUS, ANNUAL
EXPENDITURE LEVELS WOULD RISE SUBSTANTIALLY DURING NEXT FIVE
YEARS AS NEW PROJECTS ARE IMPLEMENTED. PROGRAM WILL CONTINUE
TO BE CONCENTRATED IN FOOD AND NUTRITION AND IN POPULATION PLANNING
AND HEALTH. IT DOES NOT APPEAR USEFUL TO LIST SPECIFIC AID PROJECTS
FOR NEXT FIVE YEARS UNTIL GOH HAS COMPLETED ITS WON WORK -- NOW
IN PROCESS -- ON THE SECOND FIVE-YEAR PLAN. U.S. ASSISTANCE WILL
BE COORDINATED BY INFORMAL DISCUSSIONS WITH OTHER DONORS, CONADEP-
SPONSORED COORDINATION MEETINGS, AND CEPIC'S COUNTRY REVIEW
MEETINGS.

7. REFORESTATION (PARA. 5). \$10,000 IN FY 75 SDA FUNDS HAVE
BEEN GRANTED TO A CARE-SPONSORED COOPERATIVE IN NORTHERN HAITI
FOR REFORESTATION PROJECT. TWO U.S. EXPERTS ARE COMING IN JULY
TO STUDY HAITI'S SOIL CONSERVATION PROBLEM IN ITS ENTIRETY.
THEY WILL REVIEW POSSIBILITIES FOR FURTHER REFORESTATION PROJECTS
AS WELL AS CRUCIAL PROBLEM OF PROTECTING LAND OF FARMERS
WHO MUST CONTINUE TO CULTIVATE HILLSIDES IN ORDER TO FEED THEIR
FAMILIES. OUR PREVIOUS COMMENTS ON THIS SUBJECT (REF B, PARA. 2)
REMAIN VALID.

8. FUTURE SUPPORT FOR HACHO (PARA. 5). WE PLAN A MAJOR
RE-EVALUATION OF HACHO, LOOKING TOWARD ITS DEVELOPMENT IN THE
DIRECTIONS SUGGESTED IN OUR PREVIOUS COMMENTS (REF. B, PARA. 3).
HACHO ACTIVITIES HAVE BEEN OFFICIALLY CLOSED IN GROS MORNE AND
ST. MICHEL DE L'ATTALAYE, TWO OF THE MORE PROSPEROUS COMMUNITIES
WHICH LIE OUTSIDE HACHO'S ORIGINAL AREA OF CONCENTRATION. CLOSING

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ACTION ARA-10

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CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05

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R 242124Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9663

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FOR HERMAN KLEINE, AID/AA/LA FROM AMBASSADOR AND COUNTRY TEAM

THESE ACTIVITIES WILL ENABLE HACHO BETTER SERVE THE POORER PEOPLE WHO LIVE IN THE AREA NORTHWEST OF BONAIVES.

9. PEACE CORPS (PARA. 6). AT INTERVALS SINCE FALL OF 1973, WE HAVE EXPLORED WITH PRESIDENT DUVALIER AND WITH KEY HAITIAN MINISTERS THE POSSIBILITY OF INSTITUTING A PEACE CORPS PROGRAM IN HAITI, TO START ON A MONDEST SCALE AND WITH ACTIVITIES CONCENTRATED IN AGRICULTURE AND IN CONTROL OF EROSION. TO DATE, GOH HAS GIVEN NO CLEAR INDICATION THAT IT WISHES TO REQUEST SUBH A PROGRAM OR IS PREPARED TO MAKE THE COMMITMENTS OF COUNTER-PART PERSONNEL AND OF OTHER RESOURCES WHICH ARE ESSENTIAL TO SUCCESS OF ANY SUCH PROGRAM. IN COOPERATION WITH PEACE CORPS HEADQUARTERS, WE INTEND TO CONDUCT IN THE NEAR FUTURE ANOTHER ROUND OF CONSULTATIONS WITH GOH, INCLUDING PRESIDENT DUVALIER PERSONALLY. WE ARE CAREFULLY AVOIDING ANY SEMBLANCE OF PRESSURE TO INDUCE GOH TO ACCEPT A PEACE CORPS PROGRAM, DESPITE OUR CONVICTION THAT PC VOLUNTEERS COULD MAKE PROFOUNDLY SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTIONS IN THE HAITIAN SETTING. WE ARE TRYING TO CLARIFY FOR THE GOH THE DECISIONS IT SHOULD MAKE IF IT SHOULD WISH TO AVAIL ITSELF OF THE SPECIAL TYPES OF DEVELOPMENTAL ACTIVITY WHICH THE PEACE CORPS IS UNIQUELY QUALIFIED TO SUPPORT.
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10. OPIC (PARA. 8). WE NOTE THAT OPIC'S INTEREST IN POTENTIAL PRIVATE INVESTMENTS IN HAITI IS NOW FOCUSED IN AREA OF AGRIBUSINESS.

11. POLITICAL PRISONERS AND OTHER HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUES (PARA. 9). CT'S UP-TO-DATE ASSESSMENT IS SET FORTH IN PORT-AU-PRINCE A-38 OF MARCH 18, 1975 (HUMAN RIGHTS IN HAITI: 1975). THOUGH AIRGRAM AS A WHOLE IS NECESSARILY CLASSIFIED, DEPARTMENT/AID COULD DRAW AS APPROPRIATE FROM PARTS I; III B AND C; IV; VI B-E; XIV; XV IN RESPONSE TO ANY QUESTIONS LIKELY TO ARISE.

12. SEA RESCUE CAPABILITY FOR HAITIAN ARMED FORCES (PARA. 10). A MODEST-SCALE PROGRAM OF TRAINING TO IMPROVE THE ARMED FORCES OF HAITI'S SEARCH AND SEA RESCUE CAPABILITY HAS BEEN APPROVED UNDER THE MILITARY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM, AND PREPARATORY DISCUSSIONS HAVE BEGUN WITH THE GOH TO SELECT SUITABLE COURSES AND TRAINEES. TRAINING WILL BE CONFINED TO THIS OBJECTIVE AND TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF RELATED ADMINISTRATIVE, LOGISTICAL, COMMUNICAIONS, AND LEADERSHIP SKILLS, SO THAT THE GOH CAN MAKE CONSTRUCTIVE USE OF MATERIEL IT HAS ALREADY PURCHASED. ALL TRAINING WILL BE CONDUCTED

IN THE U.S. OR AT U.S. TRAINING FACILITIES IN THE PANAMA CANAL ZONE. WHEN UNDER WAY, THIS TRAINING PROGRAM WILL BE FINANCED BY GRANTS AT AN ANNUAL LEVEL OF ABOUT \$200,000, AND WILL INVOLVE APPROXIMATELY 30 HAITIAN TRAINEES PER YEAR. NO MATERIEL WILL BE PROVIDED TO THE HAITIAN ARMED FORCES UNDER THIS PROGRAM. NO MORE GENERAL FORM OF U.S. MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO HAITI IS UNDER CONSIDERATION.

13. AMBASSADOR EXPECTS TO BE IN WASHINGTON FOR A FEW DAYS DURING WEEK OF MAY 5 AND WOULD BE PLEASED TO CONSULT PERSONALLY WITH KLEINE ON FOREGOING AS WELL AS ON ANY OTHER ASPECTS OF U.S.- HAITIAN RELATIONS.
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